

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY China

DATE DISTR. 17 Aug 51

SUBJECT 1. Korean Activities in Hong Kong
2. Popular Reaction in China to Chinese
Support of North Korea

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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1. Korean Communist propaganda, in Chinese and English, is being issued in considerable quantities through Hong Kong outlets. The material is circulated by Communists and Communist sympathizers among Hong Kong youth, and is either sold in leftist bookshops or passed around through a sort of lending library system, sometimes without charge and sometimes with a nominal fee. The books and pamphlets in circulation appear to come from Peiping, where there is a North Korean publicity office.

2. Some of the Korean residents of Hong Kong have been canvassing for supporters of the Communist cause and have found some sympathy. The majority of Hong Kong Koreans, however, being largely of the merchant class, are either neutral or are opposed to North Korea. Many of them are also opposed to Syngman RHEE, but no alternatives to his leadership have been suggested. Whatever their political color, all are in favor of unification of Korea.

3. The Hong Kong government appears to be satisfied that Korean politics are on so small a scale locally and that Chinese residents are so little interested that there is no need to interfere. The police, however, keep an eye on the Koreans and if there is any disturbance deport them, since many Koreans have entered Hong Kong illegally by posing as Chinese.

4. In North China, many Chinese feel that the Chinese support of and friendship for North Korea is not a popular movement. The Chinese people are not interested in what happens to the Koreans and in general dislike them. The Koreans in China were often associated with the Japanese in the popular opinion and had the reputation of being more savage than the Japanese military and committing more atrocities, especially when personal profit was involved, than any other nationality.

5. A typical Communist publication for sale in Hong Kong is a book published by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of North Korea in Pyongyang, dated 1950, entitled Documents and Materials Exposing the Instigators of the Civil War in Korea — documents from the Archives of the Syngman RHEE Government. The book is prefaced by the following "Editor's Notes":

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This document is hereby required to be CONFIDENTIAL in record, with the letter of 10 Oct 1951 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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- 1) The documents included in this collection were found in the archives of the Rhee Syngman government which were captured by the Korean People's Army in Seoul. Besides these documents, the testimonies of two former high officials and one army officer of the South Korean puppet government are included.
- 2) In the place of a preface, is printed the statement of the Foreign Minister of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, dated September 28, 1951, in which most of the documents and materials included herein are referred to.
- 3) This collection is arranged into four parts according to their contents.
- 4) Documents not explained by footnotes as being in the Korean language are originally in English.